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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for use by a mobile station, the method comprising the step of:

negotiating a variable quality of service between a mobile station and a wireless data network, when said mobile station is connected to said wireless data network[:]; and

wherein during said negotiation said mobile station issues a request for preferred ones of traffic classes in a priority order, and when resources are unavailable for granting a first traffic class preference, said network successively checks, according to said priority order, if enough resources are available for ~~a second~~ at least one other traffic class preference without requiring additional mobile station transmissions.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the negotiating step includes the step of:

transmitting to the wireless data network a quality of service information element having a downgradeable quality of service class field that is indicative of a request for preferred ones of traffic classes in ~~[[a]]~~ said priority order.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the negotiating step includes the step of:

transmitting to the wireless data network a quality of service information element having an upgradeable quality of service class field that is indicative of a request for a higher traffic class than an existing traffic class.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the negotiating step includes the step of:

transmitting to the wireless data network a quality of service information element having at least one traffic class field that conveys requests for preferred ones of traffic classes in ~~[[a]]~~ said priority order.

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5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the negotiating step includes the step of initiating an activate packet data protocol (PDP) context procedure that supports downgradeable quality of service requirements.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for use by a first packet server of a wireless network, the first packet server being any packet processor in said network, the method comprising the steps of:

the first packet server exchanging messages with a second packet server to communicate at least one service to a mobile station,

wherein the exchanging step includes the step of:

transmitting from the first packet server to the second packet server a message including a quality of service information element having a quality of service class field that is indicative of a request for preferred ones of traffic classes in the message in a priority order, and when resources are unavailable for granting a first traffic class preference, said network successively checks, according to said priority order, if enough resources are available for a second at least one other traffic class preference without requiring additional transmissions.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the quality of service class field is indicative of a request for a downgradeable quality of service and the preferred ones of traffic classes are requested in [[a]] said priority order.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the quality of service class field is indicative of a request for an upgradeable quality of service.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the exchanging step includes the step of initiating an activate packet data protocol (PDP) context procedure that supports variable quality of service requirements.

10. (Cancelled)

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11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A packet server comprising:

a transceiver for exchanging messages with a second packet server for a purpose of providing at least one service to a mobile station; and

a processor for causing the second packet server to transmit a message including a quality of service information element, said element having at least one traffic class field that conveys requests for preferred ones of traffic classes in a priority order, and when resources are unavailable for granting a first traffic class preference in said request for multiple traffic classes, said processor successively checks, according to said priority order, if enough resources are available for ~~a second~~ at least one other traffic class preference without requiring additional transmissions.

15. (Previously presented) A transmission frame representing data embodied in a wireless transmission signal, the transmission frame comprising:

a quality of service class field that is indicative of a request for preferred ones of traffic classes in a priority order; and

at least one traffic class field that conveys the priority order.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for use by a mobile station attached to a wireless network, the method comprising the step of:

requesting from said wireless network preferred ones of traffic classes in a priority order as part of a variable quality of service negotiation, and when resources are unavailable for granting a first traffic class preference, said network successively determines, according to said priority order, whether enough resources are available to provide a second traffic class preference.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the requesting step

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further comprises the step of:

transmitting to the wireless data network a quality of service information element having a downgradeable quality of service class field that is indicative of a request for preferred ones of traffic classes in [[a]] said priority order.